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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: DEAR *et al.*

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

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Examiner: To be assigned

For: PROTEASE-RELATED PROTEIN Attorney Docket No.: 8484-081-999

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Rule 111 of the Rules of Practice, 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, please consider and enter the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

a' 1. (Amended) A protease-related protein, [the] said protein comprising the amino acid sequence of FIGURE 1 or an amino acid sequence differing therefrom by one or more amino acids.

2. (Amended) A DNA [coding for a] encoding the protein [according to claim] of Claim 1, wherein the DNA comprises:

- (a) the DNA of FIGURE 1 or a DNA differing therefrom by one or more base pairs,
- (b) a DNA hybridizing with the DNA of (a), or
- (c) a DNA related to the DNA of (a) or (b) via the degenerated genetic code.